

Step 1 – Identifying Alaska Roadless Areas (AKRAs)



Alaska Roadless Area (AKRA)	Description	Implications
Watershed Priority	A conservation-focused land management category that is more protective than the 2001 Roadless Rule's Inventoried Roadless Areas as it offers fewer exceptions for timber harvest, road construction, and road reconstruction. Watershed Priority provides for activities specific to aquatic and terrestrial habitat improvement and protection and generally includes Tongass 77 (T77) Watersheds and The Nature Conservancy (TNC)/Audubon Conservation Areas.	<div> <i>Conservation Focused</i> <i>Most Protective</i> <i>Most Restrictive</i> <i>Prohibits Timber Harvest</i> <i>Prohibits Roads Work</i> </div>
LUD II Priority	A conservation-focused land management category that reduces land management ambiguity by translating congressionally-designated LUD II areas to LUD II Priority Alaska Roadless Areas that are managed for wildland character with few exceptions for timber harvest, road construction, or road reconstruction. LUD II Priority areas will be managed in a roadless state to retain wildland character as required by the Tongass Timber Reform Act and the National Defense Authorization Act, thereby ensuring original congressional intent.	
Roadless Priority	A land management category that is most similar to 2001 Roadless Rule's Inventoried Roadless Areas, but is less restrictive by accommodating Alaska-specific concerns by excepting infrastructure development to support and connect communities and road construction for renewable energy and leasable minerals development including minerals, geothermal, oil, gas, and coal development. Provides improved clarity by explicitly excepting activities that are allowed by the 2001 Roadless Rule, but may not have been pursued due to perceived challenges with seeking Forest Service approval of projects within Inventoried Roadless Areas.	
Timber Priority	The least restrictive land management category as it prioritizes timber management by excepting timber harvest, road construction, and road reconstruction with minimal to no limitations.	

Development Focused
Least Protective
Least Restrictive
Allows Timber Harvest
Allows Roads Work